

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-08 NEA-06 ISO-00 OMB-01 AID-05 IO-04 PM-03

NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 RSC-01 L-01 PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-05

NSAE-00 DODE-00 /068 W

----- 101934

R 041024Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 025

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

INFO AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 13875

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, VS, ID

SUBJECT: INDONESIAN ICCS CONTINGENT

REF: JAKARTA 13371

1. ON RECEIPT OF REFTEL, EMBOFF CALLED ON INDODEL DCM SAMIL NOV. 3 AND STATED THAT WE UNDERSTAND GENERAL SURONO WILL VISIT SAIGON SHORTLY, AND THAT EMBASSY WOULD BE GLAD TO BRIEF HIM IF INDODEL SO DESIRES. SAMIL REPLIED THAT SURONO WOULD ARRIVE EVENING FRIDAY, NOV. 8 AND DEPART NOV. 11, AND THAT GVN HAD MADE UP SUCH HEAVY SCHEDULE THAT IT WAS DOUBTFUL WHETHER HE WOULD HAVE ANY TIME FOR VISIT TO EMBASSY.

2. WITHOUT REFERRING TO SOURCES OR CONVERSATIONS IN REFTEL, EMBOFF ASKED IF INDODEL PLANNING TO REDUCE SIZE OF ITS CONTINGENT. SAMIL SAID HE THOUGHT IT POSSIBLE THAT DURING PROCESS OF UPCOMING ROTATION INDODEL WOULD BE REDUCED FROM 200 TO 180, THE REDUCTION TO AFFECT ONLY THE HEADQUARTERS STAFF. HE STATED PRESENT INDODEL MILITARY CHIEF GENERAL SOEMANTRI WOULD BE REPLACED BY A NEW GENERAL, AND WOULD DEPART AT END OF DECEMBER. SAMIL ADDED THAT HENCEFORTH TOURS FOR BOTH MILITARY AND CIVILIAN

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INDODEL PERSONNEL WOULD BE LIMITED TO NINE MONTHS.

3. WITH REGARD TO DEVELOPMENTS IN SECRETARIAT, SAMIL REPORTED THAT IN CONSULTATIONS OCTOBER 31 AGREEMENT HAD NOT BEEN REACHED ON POWERS OF DIRECTOR GENERAL OR ORGANIZATION OF SECRETARIAT, BUT THAT SINCE IRAN WILL NOT CONTINUE TO PROVIDE AN ACTING DIRGEN, INDONESIA AGREED TO PROVIDE AN ACTING DIRGEN FOR A TWO-MONTH TERM ENDING DECEMBER 31.

4. COMMENT: INDODEL REVIEW OF ITS CONTINGENT SIZE WILL PRESUMABLY ALSO

BE INFLUENCED BY DHARSONO TEAM'S ASSESSMENT REPORTED IN SAIGON 13114. DHARSONO HIMSELF WAS QUIETLY VISITING SAIGON OVER THE WEEKEND AND WAS CLOSETED WITH SUHUD MORNING OF EMBOFF'S CALL.

5. SHOULD BE NOTED FULL DEPLOYMENT IN THE FIELD IN TERMS OF THE ICCS PROTOCOL, EXCLUDING FIVE TEAM-SITES IN "PRG"-CONTROLLED AREA, WOULD REQUIRE EXACTLY 100 MEN, EXCLUSIVE OF PERSONNEL AT SAIGON HEADQUARTERS, WHICH MOST DELEGATIONS BELIEVE REQUIRES ANOTHER 50 TO 100 MEN. THEREFORE, ANY PROPOSAL TO REDUCE A CONTINGENT TO 50 WOULD EVIDENTLY MEAN WITHDRAWAL FROM ALL TEAM SITES TO SAIGON.
MARTIN

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